

## Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S670–73

## Additional Statements:

Page S668

## Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Page S673

**Record Votes:** Six record votes were taken today. (Total—46)

Pages S663–65, S667–68

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:35 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, March 8, 2023. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S673–74.)

## Committee Meetings

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

### DOD HEALTH PROGRAM

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Defense received a briefing on the Department of Defense Health Program from Lester Martinez-Lopez, Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs, Lieutenant General Telita Crosland, Director of the Defense Health Agency, Lieutenant General R. Scott Dingle, Surgeon General of the Army, Lieutenant General Robert I. Miller, Surgeon General of the Air Force, and Rear Admiral Bruce L. Gillingham, Surgeon General of the Navy, all of the Department of Defense.

### USSOCOM AND USCYBERCOM POSTURE

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee concluded open and closed hearings to examine the posture of United States Special Operations Command and United States Cyber Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2024 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Christopher P. Maier, Assistant Secretary for Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict, General Bryan P. Fenton, Commander, United States Special Operations Command, and General Paul M. Nakasone, Commander, United States Cyber Command, all of the Department of Defense.

### SEMIANNUAL MONETARY POLICY REPORT TO THE CONGRESS

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Semiannual Monetary Policy Report to the Congress, after receiving testimony from Jerome H. Powell, Chair, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

### FEDERAL DEBT LIMIT

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Subcommittee on Economic Policy concluded a hearing to examine the Federal debt limit and its economic and financial consequences, after receiving testimony from Mark Zandi, Moody's Analytics, West Chester, Pennsylvania; Anat Weisenfreund, Community Action Pioneer Valley, Greenfield, Massachusetts; and Douglas Holtz-Eakin, American Action Forum, Michael R. Strain, American Enterprise Institute, and Amy K. Matsui, National Women's Law Center, all of Washington, D.C.

### CRYPTO-ASSET MINING

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* Subcommittee on Clean Air, Climate, and Nuclear Safety concluded a hearing to examine the air, climate, and environmental impacts of crypto-asset mining, including an original bill entitled, "The Crypto-Asset Environmental Transparency Act", after receiving testimony from New York State Assembly Member Anna Kelles, 125th District, Cortland; Robert Altenburg, Citizens For Pennsylvania's Future, Harrisburg; and Courtney A. Dentlinger, Nebraska Public Power District, Columbus.

### AFFORDABLE HOUSING

*Committee on Finance:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine tax policy's role in increasing affordable housing supply for working families, after receiving testimony from Steve Walker, Washington State Housing Finance Commission, Seattle; Denise Scott, Local Initiatives Support Corporation, New York, New York; and Sharon Wilson Geno, National Multifamily Housing Council and National Apartment Association, Mark A. Calabria, The Cato Institute, and Garrett Watson, Tax Foundation, all of Washington, D.C.

### DIGITAL PLATFORMS

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights concluded a hearing to examine reining in dominant digital platforms, focusing on restoring competition to our digital markets, after receiving testimony from Fiona Scott Morton, Yale School of Management, New Haven, Connecticut; Chris Lewis, Public Knowledge, and Amanda G. Lewis, Cuneo Gilbert and LaDuca, LLP, both of Washington, D.C.; Daniel Francis, New York University School of Law, New York, New York; and Adam Candeub, Michigan State University Center for Renewing America, East Lansing.

# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 56 public bills, H.R. 1378–1433; and 9 resolutions, H.J. Res. 39–40; and H. Res. 197, 198, 200–204, were introduced. **Pages H1147–50**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H1152–53**

**Report Filed:** A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 199, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 140) to amend title 5, United States Code, to prohibit Federal employees from advocating for censorship of viewpoints in their official capacity, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 27) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense and the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “Revised Definition of ‘Waters of the United States’”; and providing for consideration of the bill (S. 619) to require the Director of National Intelligence to declassify information relating to the origin of COVID-19, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–7). **Page H1147**

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Cline to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1117**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 12:40 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H1121**

**Electing Members to the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library and the Joint Committee on Printing:** The House agreed to discharge from committee and agree to H. Res. 194, electing Members to the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library and the Joint Committee on Printing. **Page H1123**

**Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission—Appointment:** Read a letter from Representative Jeffries, Minority Leader, in which he appointed the following Member to the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission to serve as the Democratic Co-chairman: Representative McGovern. **Pages H1123–24**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 2:19 p.m. and reconvened at 5:04 p.m. **Page H1124**

**Suspensions:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

*Amending title 38, United States Code, to ensure that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs repays members of the Armed Forces for certain contributions made by such members towards Post-9/11*

*Educational Assistance:* H.R. 502, amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs repays members of the Armed Forces for certain contributions made by such members towards Post-9/11 Educational Assistance; **Pages H1124–25**

*Removing Extraneous Loopholes Insuring Every Veteran Emergency Act:* H.R. 815, amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements relating to the eligibility of veterans to receive reimbursement for emergency treatment furnished through the Veterans Community Care program; **Pages H1126–27**

*Wounded Warrior Access Act:* H.R. 1226, amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to allow for the electronic request of certain records, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yeas-and-nays vote of 422 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 132; and **Pages H1127–28, H1130–31**

*Understanding Cybersecurity of Mobile Networks Act:* H.R. 1123, amended, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to submit to Congress a report examining the cybersecurity of mobile service networks, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yeas-and-nays vote of 393 yeas to 22 nays, Roll No. 133. **Pages H1128–30, H1132**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 5:46 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. **Page H1130**

**Suspension—Proceedings Postponed:** The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

*Department of Veterans Affairs Creation of On-Site Treatment Systems Affording Veterans Improvements and Numerous General Safety Enhancements Act:* H.R. 753, amended, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to use on-site regulated medical waste treatment systems at certain Department of Veterans Affairs facilities. **Pages H1125–26**

**Oath of Office—Fourth Congressional District of Virginia:** Representative-elect Jennifer McClellan presented herself in the well of the House and was administered the Oath of Office by the Speaker. Earlier, the Clerk of the House transmitted a copy of a letter received from Ms. Susan J. Beals, Commissioner, Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Elections, indicating that, according to the unofficial results for the Special Election held February 21, 2023, the Honorable Jennifer McClellan was elected for Representative to Congress for the Fourth Congressional District, Commonwealth of Virginia. **Pages H1131–32**

**Whole Number of the House:** The Speaker announced to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath to the gentlewoman from Virginia, the whole number of the House is 435.

Page H1132

**Senate Referral:** S. 645 was held at the desk.

Page H1122

**Senate Message:** Message received from the Senate today appears on page H1122.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1130–31 and H1132.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 12 p.m. and adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

## *Committee Meetings*

### **COVID–19 ORIGIN ACT OF 2023; PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE RELATING TO REVISED DEFINITION OF WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES; PROTECTING SPEECH FROM GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE ACT**

*Committee on Rules:* Full Committee held a hearing on S. 619, the “COVID–19 Origin Act of 2023”; H.J. Res. 27, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense and the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “Revised Definition of ‘Waters of the United States’”; and H.R. 140, the “Protecting Speech from Government Interference Act”. The Committee granted, by record vote of 9–3, a rule providing for consideration of H.R. 140, the “Protecting Speech from Government Interference Act”, H.J. Res. 27, Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense and the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “Revised Definition of ‘Waters of the United States’”, and S. 619, the “COVID–19 Origin Act of 2023”. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 140, the “Protecting Speech from Government Interference Act”, under a structured rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Accountability or their respective designees. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against the amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 140 made in order as original text. The rule further makes in order only

those amendments printed in the Rules Committee report. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against the amendments are waived. The rule further provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides for consideration of H.J. Res. 27, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense and the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “Revised Definition of ‘Waters of the United States’”, under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the joint resolution. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure or their respective designees. The rule provides that the joint resolution shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the joint resolution. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides for consideration of S. 619, the “COVID–19 Origin Act of 2023”, under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence or their respective designees. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill. Section 4 of the rule provides that section 7 of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1546) shall not apply to a concurrent resolution introduced during the first session of the One Hundred Eighteenth Congress pursuant to section 5 of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1544) with respect to Syria. Section 5 provides that if a veto message is laid before the House on House Joint Resolution 30, then after the message is read and the objections of the President are spread at large upon the Journal, further consideration of the veto message and the joint resolution shall be postponed until the legislative day of March 23, 2023; and on that legislative day, the House shall proceed to the constitutional question of reconsideration and dispose of such question without intervening motion. Testimony was heard from Chairman Turner, and Representatives Himes, Rouzer, Larsen of Washington, Armstrong, and Raskin.